

small SOF ground teams as well as to provide air refueling for specialized infiltration aircraft. This equipment provides real time information to include; immediate intelligence, Blue Force tracking (friendly units), and survivor information, greatly improving mission success and survivability.

The entity to receive funding for this project is DRS Technologies located at 651 Anchors St., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project. Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that this request (1) is not directed to any entity or program named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended for a "front" or "pass through" entity; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable.

Requesting Member: Congressman JEFF MILLER

Project Name: Joint Gulf Complex Test and Training

Account: RDDW

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Boeing

Address of Requesting Entity: 634 Anchors St. NW., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

Description of Request: \$3,000,000—Joint Gulf Complex Test and Training, Boeing. I requested these funds to provide critical training and mission rehearsal for Iraq and Afghanistan deployments. The range must accommodate requirements for joint testing of weapons systems that are revolutionary in nature and being developed for the War, on Terrorism. The Joint Gulf Range must accommodate critical joint training requirements specifically in support of U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command and U.S. Special Operations Command.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Boeing located at 634 Anchors St. NW., Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project. Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that this request (1) is not directed to any entity or program named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended for a "front" or "pass through" entity; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable.

#### A TRIBUTE RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CATHOLIC CHURCH IN DOWNEY

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 8, 2009*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the founding of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, the first Catholic church established in the City of Downey in the 34th Congressional District.

From its initial opening as St. Anthony's Church with just a few families in 1909, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish today boasts a membership of approximately 3,500 families. The church also educates 290 students in

grades K–8 at its Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, which opened more than 60 years ago in 1948.

Under its guiding mission to "proclaim our love for God through social justice outreach," the church's involvement in the community extends well beyond religious services. Each year, Our Lady of Perpetual Help parishioners join together to help out with a wide range of community activities, including cleaning up around railroad tracks as part of "Keep Downey Beautiful," building houses with Habitat for Humanity, and participating in the Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County walk to raise funds for the organization that provides opportunities for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

In celebration of the church's centennial milestone, Cardinal Roger Mahony, Archbishop of Los Angeles, will preside over an outdoor Mass in the Marian Courtyard on the grounds of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School on Sunday, September 20.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me along with Cardinal Roger Mahony and the parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in celebrating the parish's 100 years of service to its members and the community. I would also like to submit for the RECORD the church's detailed historical overview of this parish that today stands as a spiritual home for so many Downey families.

#### A HISTORY OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CATHOLIC CHURCH

The 100 year history of the growth and development of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church closely parallels that of Downey and all of Southern California. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, which began as St. Anthony Church, grew from a scattering of Catholic families in a small mission church into a large and vigorous Catholic community whose original parish was sectioned off to aid in the establishment of 5 additional parishes.

Late in 1907 Downey area Catholics, numbering about 100, sent a petition to the Bishop requesting that mass be held there on a regular basis. Bishop Thomas Conaty, in response to their plea, arranged to have a priest say mass at Mannings Hall in Downey every Sunday morning.

In preparation for the construction of Downey's first Catholic Church, property was purchased on May 23, 1908. It was described as "a triangular lot bounded on the east by Crawford Street (Downey Avenue), on the south by Fifth Street and on the west by New Street." The following year a small frame church named in honor of St. Anthony was built on this property facing Fifth Street. The church was blessed by Fr. McGrath, pastor of St. Aloysius, in September, 1909 and dedicated by Bishop Conaty in 1911.

At the time of its dedication, St. Anthony parish boundaries extended from the Los Angeles River on the west to the San Gabriel River on the east, from just south of Slauson Avenue along the Pacific Electric tracks on the north, to Imperial Highway on the south.

St. Anthony Church continued as a mission of St. Aloysius Church until 1913 when its first resident pastor, Rev. Bartholomew O'Rourke was appointed. He was succeeded by Rev. Thomas Blackwell who remained pastor until 1918. From 1918 to 1921, Dominican Fathers served in the parish. The Redemptorist Fathers, who were assigned to St. Anthony Church from April, 1921 to mid-1922, were responsible for changing the name of the Church to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

In 1929, ground was broken just north of the existing frame church for a new larger church with a seating capacity of 450. Bishop John Cantwell officiated at the solemn dedication of the new church on Sunday, January 25, 1931.

A period of tremendous growth throughout Southern California began in the 1940s during and following World War II. With the great increase in the number of parishioners, the church was enlarged in the early 1950s.

The Whittier Narrows earthquake in 1987 caused severe damage to the original portion of the Church and it was declared unsafe for occupancy. Following feasibility studies and a parish survey, the church was restored with certain alterations. The older portion of the church was razed and an entirely new section was built onto the remaining portion of the church. The church construction was completed in 1992.

Today, under the spiritual direction of Pastor Mark Warnstedt and Associate Pastor Vivian Ben Lima, parishioners attend services—in English and Spanish—in keeping with its fitting centennial theme to "remember, rejoice, and renew."

HONORING MIKE PURL

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 8, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mike Purl upon being named by the Madera District Chamber of Commerce as a 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree. Mr. Purl was recognized on Wednesday, August 26, 2009 at the Fifth Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards and Installation Dinner.

Mike Purl was born and raised in Madera, California. He graduated from Madera Union High School and earned his Bachelor's Degree in Communications from Fresno State. During his college years, he began to work at KFSN channel 30, the local ABC affiliate and had a part-time job in radio. Mr. Purl continued to work for KFSN for ten years as a producer and director of news programs. In 1984, he took over the family business, Purl's Sheet Metal, and has been managing the company since that time.

Mr. Purl has always been an active member in the community. He was involved with many activities that involved his children, including the Boy Scouts of America, Eagle Scouts, Future Farmers of America and 4-H. He is also involved with the Kiwanis Club of Madera, where he served as president from 1989 to 1990. Mr. Purl served on the board for Campfire USA, is involved with the Madera County Historical Society, Madera Method Wagon Train, Children's Hospital Central California, Madera Community Hospital and Madera County Arts Council.

Madera has always been home to Mr. Purl and his family. He loves the small town feel that Madera has still today. Mr. Purl and his wife, Mickie, have three daughters, one son and seven grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mike Purl upon being honored as the Madera Chamber of Commerce 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Purl many years of continued success.